

APRIL 7, 1978

THIS WEEK NO. 14

ANNCR:

"THIS WEEK."

FROM THE VOICE OF AMERICA, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK GONE BY...A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS, A CROSS-SECTION OF THE IDEAS, AND THE VOICES OF SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MADE NEWS DURING THE PAST SEVEN DAYS. YOUR NARRATOR IS -----.

NARR:

PRESIDENT CARTER RETURNED TO WASHINGTON EARLY THIS WEEK FROM HIS FOUR-NATION VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA AND AFRICA, AND HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE TRIP AND ESPECIALLY WITH THE WARM RECEPTION HE RECEIVED EVERYWHERE HE WENT:

TAPE: CUT ONE -- CARTER

"I NEVER SAW, AMONGT THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO WELCOMED US, A SINGLE GESTURE OR SIGN OR POSTER OR INDICATION OF ANYTHING EXCEPT FRIENDSHIP. THIS IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST. THE FRIENDLY CROWDS THAT GREETED US EVERYWHERE SHOWED AN AFFECTION FOR THE UNITED STATES, BASED NOT SO MUCH ON OUR COUNTRY'S POWER OR EVEN OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, BUT ON WHAT WE STAND FOR IN THE WORLD."

NARR:

MISTER CARTER ALSO LISTED THE MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS TRIP. HE SAID IN VENEZUELA, PROGRESS WAS MADE TOWARD A MORE COOPERATIVE APPROACH BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS. ON BRAZIL MISTER CARTER ACKNOWLEDGED CONTINUING DIFFERENCES OVER HUMAN RIGHTS AND NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, BUT HE SAID THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE REESTABLISHED AN UNDERSTANDING OF LONG TERM COMMON INTERESTS AND VALUES. TURNING TO AFRICA, MISTER CARTER SAID RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO THEIR BEST POINT, AND IN LIBERIA A VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WAS REAFFIRMED.

IN NIGERIA, PRESIDENT CARTER PROPOSED THE CONVENING OF A NEW CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL THE INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE FRONT-LINE STATES. EARLY IN THE WEEK, BRITAIN SENT AN INVITATION TO SALISBURY FOR THE FOUR PARTIES TO THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT TO ATTEND THESE WIDER CONSTITUTIONAL TALKS. WHILE RHODESIAN OFFICIALS SAID THEY WOULD BE READY TO CONSIDER ANY NEW CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS, THEY ALSO DECLARED THAT THERE CAN BE NO DEPARTURE FROM THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT SIGNED LAST MONTH.

MEANWHILE, THE THREE BLACK NATIONALISTS ON RHODESIA'S RULING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGREED ON ALLOCATING THE NINE MINISTERIAL POSTS ASSIGNED TO THEM IN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT. THE FINAL AGREEMENT, WHICH CAME ONLY TWO WEEKS AFTER THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WAS SWORN IN, HAD BEEN CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT IS CAPABLE OF IMPLEMENTING SOME OF THE MORE URGENT ITEMS OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

IN LONDON, BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID OWEN WARNED THAT SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA REPRESENTS A DISQUIETING DISTURBANCE OF THE MILITARY BALANCE.

TAPE: CUT TWO -- OWEN

"EVEN MORE SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS FOR AFRICA AND EAST-WEST RELATIONS WOULD FLOW IF THERE WERE ANY ATTEMPT TO USE CUBAN FORCES OR ANY OTHER OUTSIDE FORCES TO UNDERMINE CURRENT TALKS TO BRING PEACE AND DEMOCRACY TO RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA THROUGH NEGOTIATED AND INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENTS."

NARR:

THE MIDDLE EAST, THERE WERE NO NEW SIGNS OF A RESUMPTION IN DIRECT EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS BUT INTENSE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY STILL CONTINUED THIS WEEK. AFTER TALKS IN BUCHAREST WITH ROMANIAN PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUSESCU, ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN SAID NEITHER SIDE SUCCEEDED IN ALTERING THE OTHER'S

POSITION. ACCORDING TO MISTER DAYAN, PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT ISRAEL SHOULD WITHDRAW FROM ALL TERRITORY OCCUPIED IN THE 1967 WAR AND AGREE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE. MISTER DAYAN ALSO SAID HE WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO EXPLAIN WHY ISRAEL CANNOT ACCEPT EITHER PROPOSITION. THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ADDED THAT ALL IN ALL, WHILE ROMANIA AND ISRAEL MAY NOT HAVE AGREED, BOTH COUNTRIES DID MAKE THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS CLEAR. BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY THAT HAS TIES WITH BOTH ISRAEL AND THE ARAB WORLD, ROMANIA IS WIDELY BELIEVED TO HAVE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN THE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS THAT LED TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S DRAMATIC VISIT TO ISRAEL LAST YEAR.

MEANWHILE IN CAIRO, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE IS READY TO RESUME DIRECT TALKS WITH ISRAEL WHENEVER THERE ARE NEW POINTS TO DISCUSS:

TAPE: CUT THREE -- SADAT

"I RECEIVED EZER WEIZMAN, THE ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER, HERE AND HE MAY COME AGAIN. I HAVE DECLARED THAT I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS. AND I TOLD HIM WHEN HE WAS HERE THE LAST TIME THAT HE IS WELCOME WHENEVER THERE ARE NEW IDEAS TO START WITH. I DON'T INTERFERE IN OTHERS' DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. MISTER BEGIN SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE AND I TOLD WEIZMAN, WHEN HE VISITED ME, THIS."

NARR:

IN OTHER MIDDLE EAST-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS THIS WEEK, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE SAID IN A LETTER TO CONGRESS THAT A VIOLATION OF THE U.S.-ISRAELI ARMS AGREEMENT MAY HAVE OCCURRED WHEN ISRAEL USED U.S. ARMS DURING ITS RECENT MILITARY OPERATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. BUT THE SECRETARY SAID HE IS NOT RECOMMENDING ANY ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL. MISTER VANCE'S LETTER WAS A RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY ON WHETHER ISRAEL WAS USING AMERICAN-MADE EQUIPMENT IN LEBANON IN ACCORDANCE WITH U.S. LAW. 1952 U.S.-ISRAELI AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY LIMITS USE OF WEAPONS

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SUPPLIED BY THE UNITED STATES TO SELF DEFENSE, TO MAINTAIN  
INTERNAL ORDER, OR FOR REGIONAL MILITARY OPERATIONS UNDER U.N.  
AUSPICES. WHEN ISRAEL SENT ITS TROOPS INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON  
THREE WEEKS AGO, IT SAID IT HAD DONE SO IN SELF-DEFENSE AGAINST  
ATTACKS BY PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS WHO IT CLAIMED WERE USING  
SOUTHERN LEBANON AS A BASE FOR THEIR OPERATIONS AGAINST ISRAELI  
CIVILIANS.

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LATER IN THE WEEK, U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ALFRED  
ATHERTON SAID THAT DESPITE THE APPARENT DEADLOCK, THE DEEP  
DIFFERENCES, AND THE RECURRING CYCLES OF VIOLENCE, THE DYNAMICS  
OF THE MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATING PROCESS ARE STILL AT WORK. MISTER  
ATHERTON ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE HOPES OF LAST NOVEMBER HAVE TURNED  
TO FRUSTRATION AND DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT HE INSISTED THAT NOTHING  
HAS GONE IRRETRIEVABLY WRONG AND THAT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE  
STILL EXISTS.

MEANWHILE, IN CYPRUS, A CYPRIOT COURT THIS WEEK SENTENCED  
TWO MEN TO HANG FOR THE MURDER OF A PROMINENT EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER  
EDITOR AND A CLOSE FRIEND OF PRESIDENT SADAT. THE INCIDENT LED  
TO A SHOOT-OUT AT LARNACA AIRPORT IN CYPRUS IN WHICH 15 EGYPTIAN  
COMMANDOS WERE KILLED. CAIRO SUBSEQUENTLY SEVERED DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS WITH NICOSIA.

CYPRUS WAS ALSO IN THE NEWS IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK AS THE  
CARTER ADMINISTRATION ASKED CONGRESS TO LIFT THE AMERICAN ARMS  
EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY. THE EMBARGO WAS IMPOSED BY CONGRESS  
AFTER THE 1974 TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS, AND CONGRESS HAS  
INSISTED ON MAINTAINING THE EMBARGO UNTIL PROGRESS IS MADE IN  
RESOLVING THE CYPRUS DISPUTE. LATER IN THE WEEK, SECRETARY OF  
STATE VANCE WENT TO CONGRESS TO EXPLAIN THE ADMINISTRATION'S  
REQUEST FOR LIFTING THE EMBARGO. VOA CORRESPONDENT MARY WILLEN  
HAD THIS REPORT:

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- WILLEN

"MISTER VANCE STRESSED THAT THE ARMS EMBARGO HAS DONE SERIOUS DAMAGE, NOT ONLY TO TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, BUT TO THE NATO ALLIANCE. HE SAID MAINTAINING A STRONG SOUTHERN FLANK OF NATO IS ESSENTIAL TO PROTECT WESTERN INTERESTS. BUT HE COMPLAINED THAT OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SOUTHERN FLANK HAS BEEN ERODED IN A MANNER THAT IS OF GRAVE CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES. MISTER VANCE NOTED THAT TURKEY OCCUPIES A CRITICAL GEOGRAPHIC POSITION, BUT THAT THE READINESS OF TURKISH FORCES HAS DETERIORATED SERIOUSLY IN RECENT YEARS. HE SAID IF TURKEY IS TO CONTINUE TO PLAY ITS NATO ROLE, U.S. RELATIONS WITH TURKEY MUST BE REVITALIZED."

NARR:

THE DECISION TO LIFT THE EMBARGO WAS WELCOMED IN ANKARA. TURKISH PRIME MINISTER BULENT ECEVIT CALLED IT A MAJOR STEP TOWARD IMPROVING TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. IN ATHENS AND NICOSIA, MEANWHILE, THE REACTION WAS PREDICTABLE. THE GOVERNMENTS OF GREECE AND CYPRUS FILED OFFICIAL PROTESTS AND WARNED OF POSSIBLE ANTI-AMERICAN SENTIMENT.

A GROUP OF U.S. LEGISLATORS SAID THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL OPPOSITION IN CONGRESS TO ENDING THE ARMS EMBARGO. THE CONGRESSMEN MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WILL INSIST ON A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT BEFORE THEY SUPPORT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION POSITION. THEY SAID TURKEY IS IN A POSITION TO OFFER CONCRETE PROPOSALS TOWARD A CYPRUS ACCORD, BUT HAS SO FAR OFFERED NONE. LATER IN THE WEEK, SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE WENT TO CONGRESS TO EXPLAIN THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR LIFTING THE EMBARGO. VOA CORRESPONDENT MARK WILLEN HAD THIS REPORT:

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NARR:

IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK, PRESIDENT CARTER DECIDED TO DELAY PRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON BOMB. THE WHITE HOUSE SAID A FINAL DECISION WILL BE MADE LATER AND WILL BE INFLUENCED BY THE DEGREE OF RESTRAINT DEMONSTRATED BY THE SOVIET UNION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT OF ITS OWN CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR ARMS.

MISTER CARTER ALSO SAID HE HAS ORDERED THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN MODERNIZING CERTAIN SPECIFIC WEAPONS SO THAT NEUTRON WARHEADS CAN BE INSTALLED IN THEM IF A DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH NEUTRON BOMB PRODUCTION IS EVENTUALLY MADE.

THE FUTURE OF THE NEUTRON BOMB IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO AMERICAN ALLIES IN NATO. THE NEW WEAPON, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO KILL PEOPLE WITHOUT CAUSING MAJOR DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY, WOULD BE DEPLOYED IN WESTERN EUROPE AGAINST AN ATTACK FROM WARSAW PACT FORCES. FOR THIS REASON THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS ANXIOUS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF ITS NATO ALLIES. PRESIDENT CARTER ALSO CONFERRED WITH WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER HANS DIETRICH GENSCHER. THERE WERE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT WEST GERMANY FAVORED PRODUCTION OF THE NUETRON BOMB, BUT MISTER GENSCHER SAID THE DECISION WAS UP TO THE UNITED STATES.

THIS WEEK, THE U.S. SENATE WAS BUSY WITH STILL ANOTHER MATTER: THE SECOND PANAMA CANAL TREATY, AND IT AGREED TO VOTE ON THE TREATY IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS. AFTER THIRTY DAYS OF DEBATE, SUPPORTERS AND OPPONENTS OF THE TREATY ALSO AGREED THAT ALL REMAINING AMENDMENTS TO THE PACT WILL BE CONSIDERED BEFORE APRIL 13.

MEANWHILE, TREATY OPPONENTS LOST TWO MORE ATTEMPTS TO AMEND TH TREATY. THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THESE AMENDMENTS, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ORRIN HATCH, WOULD HAVE REQUIRED THE HOUSE OF REPRESENT-ATIVES TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF U.S. PROPERTY IN THE CANAL ZONE BEFORE THE TREATY COULD TAKE EFFECT. STILL, SENATOR HATCH CALLED A VICTORY SINCE ONLY 34 VOTES ARE NEEDED TO KILL THE TREATY.

TAPE: CUT SIX -- HATCH

"I THINK THAT THE VOTE -- 58 TO 37 -- WAS A VICTORY FOR THE OPPONENTS OF THE TREATIES BECAUSE 37 SENATORS HAVE STOOD FOR THE PROPOSITION THAT THE PRESIDENT IS EXTENDING HIS POWER IN VIOLATION OF THE SEPARATION OF POWERS DOCTRINE. AND FRANKLY, I THINK THE 37 SENATORS WILL HAVE A VERY DIFFICULT TIME -- ANY OF THEM -- VOTING FOR THE TREATIES COME THE FINAL TREATY VOTE BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE VOTING FOR A TREATY WHICH THEY THEMSELVES BELIEVE IS BEING RATIFIED UNDER UNCONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES."

NARR:

LATER IN THE WEEK, PANAMA'S CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT, OMAR TORRIJOS, SENT A LETTER TO ALL HEADS OF U.N. MEMBER NATIONS AND SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM, EXPRESSING PANAMA'S DEEP CONCERN OVER THE AMENDMENTS AND RESERVATIONS ALREADY ATTACHED BY THE U.S. SENATE TO THE TREATY ON THE CANAL'S PERMANENT NEUTRALITY. THE LETTER CALLS ATTENTION TO THE RESERVATION WHICH STATES THAT EVEN AFTER THE CANAL IS TURNED OVER TO PANAMA THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE MILITARY FORCE IN PANAMA TO REOPEN THE CANAL IF IT IS EVER CLOSED.

ANNCR:

AND THOSE ARE SOME OF THE STORIES THAT MADE HEADLINES THIS WEEK. YOUR NARRATOR WAS ----- JOIN US AGAIN NEXT ----- WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA TAKES A LOOK AT THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK.

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JS/RTD